

10/004,132

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 20 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, first paragraph, for reasons stated in the Office Action. In this regard, Applicant would like to point out that claims 20 and 23 cover the embodiment of Figure 7 of the drawings. Claims 20 and 23 are amended with the Section 112, first paragraph, rejection in mind. It is believed that all of the bases for the rejection are overcome.

Claims 20 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph, for reasons stated in the Office Action. In this regard, claims 20 and 23 are amended with the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection in mind. It is believed that all of the bases for the rejection are overcome.

Applicant would like to respectfully point out that the rejection of claims 20-24 of the present application is improper for at least the reasons explained hereinbelow.

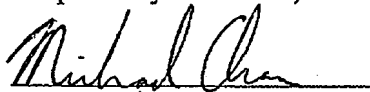
Applicant notes that the Office Action refers to the "personal key" disclosed in Matyas, Jr. et al. ("Matyas Jr."). In this regard, Applicant would like to point out that the personal key of Matyas Jr. is generated based upon a passphrase provided by a user (see at least column 1, lines 53-57 of the specification of Matyas Jr.). Since the personal key of Matyas Jr. is generated based upon a user-provided passphrase, the personal key cannot be an encryption key which is already stored at an encrypting keypad module as claimed each of claims 20-24 of the present application. Each of claims 20-24 of the present application recites that an encryption key is already stored at the encrypting keypad module.

If the Office continues to reject claims 20-24 of the present application by applying Matyas Jr., it is respectfully requested that the Office explain how the personal key of Matyas Jr. can be considered to be an encryption key which is already stored at an encrypting keypad module when a user-provided passphrase is needed to generate the personal key. Absent an adequate explanation, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is improper and, therefore, should be withdrawn.

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In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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